

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, UK

SUBJ: CIVAIR - US-UK CHARTER FLIGHT TALKS

REF: STATE 103347

1. BILATERAL CHARTER FLIGHT TALKS HELD WITH UK ON MAY 6.

DURING COURSE OF DISCUSSIONS USDEL SOUGHT:

(A) RELAXATION OF UK 30-DAY PRELISTING OF PASSENGERS AND RESTRICTIONS ON SUBSTITUTION FOR AFFINITY CHARTERS. UKDEL SAID NO RELAXATION OF ANY KIND ON THESE POINTS COULD BE EXTENDED. UK SIDE UNMOVED BY SHARP DROP IN AFFINITY PLANE-LOAD CHARTER TRAFFIC AND HELD TO POSITION THAT ANY RELIEF ON AFFINITY RULES WOULD ONLY BOOST A FORM OF CHARTER TRAVEL WHICH UK AND OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES ARE TRYING TO DISCOURAGE.

(B) RELIEF FROM REQUIREMENT FOR PASSENGER MANIFESTS ON ITC'S WHEN SPLIT WITH TGC'S. UK DEL SAID PASSENGER MANIFESTS ABSOLUTELY REQUIRED FOR ENFORCEMENT PURPOSES BUT AGREED UKG WOULD RE-EXAMINE ITS PROCEDURES TO SEE IF IT ADMINISTRATIVELY POSSIBLE REDUCE ADVANCE FILING TIME (AT PRESENT 7 DAYS) FOR ITC LISTS.

(C) RIGHTS FOR US CARRIERS TO OPERATE THIRD COUNTRY LEGS ON MULTI-STOP ITC'S. UKDEL SAID THESE ARE REGARDED AS FIFTH FREEDOM FLIGHTS AND UK DOES NOT ALLOW THEM BECAUSE US DOES NOT ALLOW UK CHARTER CARRIERS TO OPERATE FIFTH FREEDOM CHARTERS OUT OF US.

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(D) PERMISSION TO COMMINGLE AFFINITY AND ITCS ON SAME AIR-CRAFT. UKDEL SAID IT WOULD CONSIDER, BUT IN VIEW OF BASIC DISTASTES FOR AFFINITY CHARTERS IT UNLIKELY ANYTHING WILL COME OF THIS.

(E) IMPROVEMENT FOR SUPPLEMENTAL CARRIERS IN CARRIAGE OF NON-REVENUE PASSENGERS (COMPANY EMPLOYEES AND IMMEDIATE FAMILIES) ON CHARTER FLIGHTS. UKDEL APPEARED FAVORABLY DISPOSED TO THIS BUT SAID WOULD HAVE TO EXAMINE MORE CLOSELY.

(F) ASSURANCE THAT SALES INCENTIVE CHARTERS (OPERATED AS SINGLE ENTITIES BUT WHERE SOME PASSENGERS MAY MAKE PARTIAL PAYMENT, SUCH AS PUROLATOR EXAMPLE) WILL BE ALLOWED TO OPERATE. UKDEL WAS FAVORABLY DISPOSED BUT WANTED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON CAB WAIVER CRITERIA TO ENSURE THAT DOOR NOT BEING OPENED ON BASICALLY NEW FORM OF CHARTER. THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO BE CHanneled THROUGH UK EMBASSY WASHINGTON.

2. UKDEL EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT 15 PERCENT REASSIGNMENT PROVISION OF TGCS, WANTED INFORMATION ON HOW IT WOULD BE POLICED AND ASSURANCE THAT IT WOULD NOT UNDULY ERODE BASIC PRINCIPLE OF ADVANCE BOOKING CHARTER. REQUESTED INFORMATION TO BE GIVEN UK EMBASSY WASHINGTON. UK SAID IT ALSO WORRIED ABOUT PROPOSED OTC, PARTICULARLY FACT THAT PRICE WOULD NOT BE TIED TO A KNOWN AND FIXED SCHEDULED SERVICE FARE.

3. SINCE UK DID NOT AGREE TO ANY CHANGES, WE TOLD UKDEL AT END OF TALKS THAT QUESTION OF WHETHER TO EXTEND MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING THROUGH END OF YEAR WOULD HAVE TO BE REFERRED TO WASHINGTON FOR CONSIDERATION.

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